

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A throttle grip apparatus, comprising:
 - a throttle grip rotatably mounted on the leading end of a handlebar of a vehicle;
 - a case disposed on the handlebar at a position being adjacent to the throttle grip;
 - a throttle opening angle sensor for detecting the rotation angle of the throttle grip and disposed in the case; and,
 - an energizing unit for energizing the throttle grip in a direction to return to the initial position thereof, an engine of the vehicle being controlled in accordance with the detected value of the throttle opening angle sensor,wherein the energizing unit includes a spiral spring mounted on a base end side of the throttle grip and having one end fixed to the base end portion of the throttle grip and the other end fixed to the case, wherein the one end of the spiral spring and the other end of the spiral spring are disposed at substantially the same position in an axial direction of the throttle grip, and the spiral spring is wound up as the throttle grip is rotated from the initial state thereof to increase frictional resistance.
2. (previously presented): A throttle grip apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the spiral spring changes in such a manner that mutually contacted portions of the spiral spring increase gradually with the rotation of the throttle grip.

3. (previously presented): A throttle grip apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a tube guide rotatable with said throttle grip and at least partially disposed in said case, wherein one end of the spiral spring is bent and secured to a recessed portion formed in the tube guide and the other end of said spiral spring is fixed to a bottom surface of an inside of a lower portion of the case.

4. (new): A throttle grip apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the spiral spring has a hysteresis characteristic.